





Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 419 October 28, 2020, 2:55 p.m. (ChST)

76th COVID-19 Fatality Reported; 11 DOC Employees Test Positive for COVID-19; One GRTA Employee Tests Positive For COVID-19

For information on COVID-19 cases, visit the official COVID-19 Situation Report and Dashboard at http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/.

76th COVID-19 Fatality Reported

The Joint Information Center was notified that Guam's 76th COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) at approximately 12:26 p.m. The patient was a 41-year-old male with underlying health conditions complicated by COVID-19. He was admitted to GMH on October 5 and tested positive upon admission.

"To his family and friends, please accept our deepest condolences and sympathies. I hope you find comfort with the knowledge you have the support of our entire island community," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. "Because of the nature of a pandemic, our individual actions do not just affect ourselves—they affect those around us. We cannot become complacent, and we must accept that we all have a responsibility to ensure the health and safety of Guam."

The Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) has a Crisis Hotline that is available 24/7 at (671) 647-8833/4. For those feeling anxious, stressed, overwhelmed or are needing to talk to someone, GBHWC has experienced providers available and ready to assist the community with any heightened stress and anxiety experienced as a result of COVID-19.

11 DOC Employees Test Positive for COVID-19

The Department of Corrections (DOC) has been notified that five recruits and six officers assigned to DOC's Adult Correctional Facility in Mangilao have tested positive for COVID-19. Some of the infected officers were off-duty and reported experiencing flu-like symptoms, while other officers who were on duty and reported feeling ill were immediately secured from duty.

Through DOC's internal contact tracing efforts, 19 officers were ordered to quarantine at home for 14 days and were instructed to seek medical attention upon the onset of any signs of illness. As a further result of these efforts, 20 inmates and 10 officers who were identified as close contacts were also tested by the DOC medical clinic and received negative results.

At this time, there are no reported cases of COVID-19 within DOC's inmate population.

One GRTA Employee Tests Positive For COVID-19

On October 28, 2020, the Guam Regional Transit Authority (GRTA) was notified that an employee of the authority had tested positive for COVID-19. At this time, GRTA paratransit and fixed route operations are unaffected and will continue normal operations. GRTA continues to perform mitigation measures which include:

- Sanitization of buses and vans twice daily in the afternoon and evening in preparation for morning operations
- Enforced social distancing
- Providing hand sanitizing wipes to riders
- Ensuring all riders wear face masks while on board
- Providing faces masks to riders who don't have one

For additional information, or inquiries on GRTA's services, the public is advised to contact

- 475-4686
- 686-7433
- 888-7433
- 647-7433

For the latest information on COVID-19, visit <u>dphss.guam.gov</u> or <u>guamrecovery.com</u>. For inquiries on COVID-19, contact 311 through a local number, or call the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.

-###-